

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



April 13, 1999

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 99-22

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY ICPC LIAISONS

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

- ☐ State Law Changes
- ☐ Federal Law of Regulations Change
- ☐ Court Order or Settlement Agreement
- ☐ Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- ☒ Initiated by CDSS

REFERENCE: RESCINDING AUTHORIZATION TO RECEIVE PUBLIC FUNDS
FROM CALIFORNIA CHILDREN PLACED IN

- (1) KIDS PEACE NATIONAL CENTERS FOR KIDS IN CRISIS,
BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA
- (2) PROVO CANYON SCHOOL, PROVO, UTAH
- (3) DESERT HILLS, ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

(1) KIDS PEACE NATIONAL CENTERS FOR KIDS IN CRISIS

Under the authority of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children and as the Title IV-E single state agency authority, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) is suspending, effective March 18, 1999, any new Interstate Compact placements from California to Kids Peace National Centers for Kids in Crisis. There are no California children currently in placement at Kids Peace National Centers for Kids in Crisis.

On December 15, 1998, I suspended authorization for Kids Peace National Centers for Kids in Crisis to receive public funds for California children pending an investigation of a death at the facility. Since that time, we have contacted various licensing, law enforcement and legal agencies in Pennsylvania and requested information to assist in our investigation. To date, our attempts have been unsuccessful.

California Family Code Section 7912(b) permits the temporary suspension of placements not to exceed 100 days pending the completion of an investigation. We are fastly approaching that time and due to the lack of information, we are unable to make an informed decision. Hence, at this time, we are removing Kids Peace National Centers for Kids in Crisis from the "authorized pending certification" list indefinitely. As a result of this action, counties may not claim costs on any of the County Assistance Claims for Placements at this facility effective December 15, 1998 until further notice. Any county that does not comply will be at risk of future audit exceptions.

(2) PROVO CANYON SCHOOL

Provo Canyon School has advised the California Department of Social Services that they are no longer interested in certification. The Community Care Licensing Division issued a letter dated March 17, 1999, to Provo Canyon documenting their request and removing them from the "authorized pending certification" list.

As such, under the authority of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children and as the Title IV-E single state agency authority, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) is suspending, effective March 18, 1999, any new Interstate Compact placements from California to Provo Canyon School. In addition, CDSS is rescinding authorization to use public funds (county/state/federal) effective April 18, 1999, for California children currently in placement at Provo Canyon School. The Placer, San Bernardino, and Santa Barbara Probation Departments and Riverside County Department of Public Social Services currently have children placed at this facility. These agencies were notified by telephone on Wednesday, March 17, 1999, to develop plans for the safe removal and return of the children. They have begun to do so.

As a result of this action, counties may no longer claim costs on any of the County Assistance Claims for New Placements at this facility effective March 18, 1999. Counties may no longer claim costs for existing placements at this facility effective April 18, 1999. Any county that does not comply will be at risk of future audit exceptions.

(3) DESERT HILLS

Desert Hills has advised the California Department of Social Services that they are no longer interested in certification. As such, under the authority of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children and as the Title IV-E single state agency authority, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) is suspending, effective March 16, 1999, any new Interstate Compact placements from California to Desert Hills. There are no California children currently in placement at Desert Hills.

As a result of this action, counties may no longer claim costs on any of the County Assistance Claims for New Placements at this facility effective March 16, 1999. Any county that does not comply will be at risk of future audit exceptions.

CONCLUSION

Be advised that failure to obtain certification precludes placement of California children by county social services or probation departments. However, children who are seriously emotionally disturbed and placed pursuant to California Government Code section 7570 et. al. are not impacted by the certification process.

Page Three

Attached for your convenience is a revised "Authorized Group Homes Pending Certification List."

Should you desire additional information, please telephone Ms. Marika Wolf, Deputy Compact Administrator and Manager, Out-of-State Placement Policy Unit, at (916) 323-1000.

Sincerely,

***Original Document Signed by Marjorie Kelly
on April 13, 1999***

MARJORIE KELLY
Deputy Director and
Compact Administrator

Attachment

c: CWDA
CPOC
Judicial Council

AUTHORIZED GROUP HOMES
PENDING CERTIFICATION
Updated April 9, 1999

- Azelway (Texas)
- Boys/Girls Home of Missouri
- Chileda Institute (Wisconsin)
- Children's Home of Detroit
- Christie School (Oregon)
- Church of God Children's Home (North Carolina)
- Cinnamon Hills (UTAH)
- Colorado Boys Ranch (Colorado)
- Devereux (Texas)
- Excelsior (Colorado)
- Glen Mills (Pennsylvania)
- Griffith Center (Colorado)
- Nashua Child Center (New Hampshire)
- New Hope Treatment Centers (South Carolina)
- Normative Services (Wyoming)
- Prairie Learning Center (North Dakota)
- Raindancer Youth Services (Utah)
- Rite of Passage (Nevada)
- Sorenson's Ranch School (Utah)
- St. Aloysius Orphanage (Ohio)
- Vision Quest (Arizona)
- Youth Dynamics, Inc. (Montana)